

NEWS RELEASE

Date: March 17, 2005

District: 07 Los Angeles

Contact: Judy Gish

Phone: 213 897-3487

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY (SR-1) SLIDE AREA CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Los Angeles County – Construction is underway on a project to grade the cliff above Pacific Coast Highway (State Route 1) between Topanga Canyon Boulevard and Coastline Drive.

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) crews will begin re-striping in the project area tonight, and by the Friday morning commute a third lane will be added, providing two southbound lanes until noon. At noon, the lane will be switched to provide two northbound lanes until 10 p.m. At that time, the lane will be switched back to the southbound direction. This schedule will continue for the duration of the project.

The grading project is necessary because a large fissure has formed on the cliff, creating a high potential for a landslide. The project, currently on schedule, will take up to three weeks to complete, weather permitting and barring unforeseen difficulties. Work will be performed between the hours of 6 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Nighttime work is not possible because slope instability makes visibility essential for worker safety however trucks are operating 24 hours a day to remove dirt from the hillside. During the course of the project, 3000 truckloads of dirt will be removed.

Residents can expect noise and vibration from equipment. Motorists are advised to expect delays. Caltrans apologizes for these unavoidable inconveniences during construction.

Updates will be provided as new information becomes available. For additional information or assistance, please contact the Caltrans Public Affairs Office from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at (213) 897-3693 or (213) 897-3656.

####

